

Regular Meeting
April 21, 2022

The regular meeting of the Macon County Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, April 21, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. with Vice-chairman Melvin, Commissioner Felton, Commissioner George, Commissioner Haugabook, County Manager Lewis, County Attorney Coogle, and Deputy County Manager Starling in attendance. Chairman Oliver was absent.

Vice-chairman Melvin called the meeting to order and gave the opening prayer.

Commissioner George made the motion to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2022, meeting as presented, seconded by Commissioner Haugabook, and carried unanimously.

Dexter McKenzie, Athletic Coordinator, came to recognize the Macon County Recreational Basketball State Champions. The Board of Commissioners congratulated the group of young men on their accomplishment and pictures were taken.

Committee/Department Reports

County Manager Lewis gave the following report:

Presented the Board with a map of the location of the signage for the engine braking enforcement signs to be placed on Hwy 127/128 by the Department of Transportation.

Discussed approval of the grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services in the amount \$1.4M to upgrade communications for law enforcement.

Met with GDOT representative and was informed that the shoulders need to be firmed up on the Buckcreek Bypass Road. This road is slated for improvement if the TIA funds are approved in the upcoming election.

Met with CSX railroad Representative to discuss railroad crossing on Buckeye Road. Need proper signage at railroad crossing to try to help prevent breakage of the crossing arms.

Submitted FY23 Appropriations Grant Application grant for equipment for the Sheriff's Department which includes vehicles, hardware, and jail facility. Received letter of support from various Senators and Representatives to submit with application.

Acknowledged receipt of letter from GFL of proposed rate increase for waste collection. Will discuss at next meeting.

Approval of \$8K Annual Railroad Spur Repair Investment

Commissioner George made the motion to appropriate \$8,000 from the general fund budget and to write check to the Development Authority to place in special account designated for rail spur repairs, seconded by Commissioner Haugabook, and carried unanimously.

Approval of District 5 Board of Elections Appointment

Commissioner George made the motion to appoint Dorothy McKenzie as District 5 representative on the Board of Elections to fill the unexpired term of Tarshea Riley, seconded by Commissioners Felton and carried unanimously.

Approval of CPV Stagecoach Solar, LLC MOU

Commissioner George made the motion to approve the MOU with the CPV Stagecoach Solar LLC, seconded by Commissioner Haugabook and carried unanimously.

Approval of Flint River Trail Resolution

Commissioner Felton made the motion to approve the Resolution to support the Flint River Water Trail in Macon County, seconded by Commissioner George and carried unanimously.

Approval of Road Resurfacing Bid Award

Commissioner George made the motion to approve the bid with Reames & Sons Construction \$6,194,006.50 for resurfacing of eleven roads in Macon County, seconded by Commissioner Felton and carried unanimously. Commissioner George stated he wants a recap of the funding sources for this project.

Approval of Brooks Road Fire Station Bid Proposal

County Manager Lewis presented an updated bid package for the fire station on Brooks Road. The specifications require a turnkey job and bids will be accepted until May 20th. The Board agreed on the updates and instructed County Manager Lewis to proceed.

Approval of County Road Maintenance Proposal

Commissioner Felton asked how we are going to incorporate this with Road Department because their budget is almost \$1 million now. County Manager Lewis stated he was looking at a restructure plan for the road department that would reduce the current costs. County Attorney Coogle stated he thought we would need to bid this project. County Manager Lewis stated the contract would be for one year and would begin on June 1st. Commissioner George made the motion to accept the proposal from W.L. Swartz, LLC to maintain 118 county roads at a monthly sum of \$59,000 per month subject to the outcome of the research by County attorney Coogle on whether the project has to be bid, seconded by Vice-chairman Melvin and carried by a vote of 3 for (MG,BM,RF) and 1 abstention (BH).

Public Comment

Barbara Banks came to speak about the situation at the Elections Office. She stated the choice of interim elections supervisor was perplexing to her. She stated that Kiara had been employed 8 or 10 years and had experience for this position. She stated it was her belief that Kiara was hoping to move into the head position. She stated the citizens are upset about this situation. She stated that Kiara should have been the person chosen by the Board of Elections to fill the vacant position. Ms. Banks also stated that on Patsy's final day that Mr. Lewis's actions taken were a little overboard; Patsy has been serving the county for 19 years calling the police when she came for her personal possessions was not warranted. County Manager Lewis stated he had been told by staff that they needed assistance in this situation. Ms. Banks stated she thought there was an interview process for the Election Superintendents position, but she had found out that was not the case. Vice-chairman Melvin thanked Ms. Banks for her comments.

There being no further business, Commissioner Felton made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner George and carried unanimously.



Carl Oliver, Chairman